

**MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, VOLUME I, 3-18-09**

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

W. A. DREW EDMONDSON, in his )  
capacity as ATTORNEY GENERAL )  
OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA and )  
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF THE )  
ENVIRONMENT C. MILES TOLBERT,) )  
in his capacity as the )  
TRUSTEE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES) )  
FOR THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, )

Plaintiff, )

vs. )

4:05-CV-00329-TCK-SAJ

TYSON FOODS, INC., et al, )

Defendants. )

- - - - -  
VOLUME I OF THE VIDEOTAPED  
DEPOSITION OF MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, produced  
as a witness on behalf of the Plaintiff in the above  
styled and numbered cause, taken on the 18th day of  
March, 2009, in the City of Tulsa, County of Tulsa,  
State of Oklahoma, before me, Kristen Holmes, a  
Certified Shorthand Reporter, duly certified under  
and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

**TULSA FREELANCE REPORTERS**  
**918-587-2878**

**EXHIBIT**

**2**

**MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, VOLUME I, 3-18-09**

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1 Q Did you undertake any surveys or studies or  
2 research to identify the source of the nutrients in  
3 the -- either the Colorado River or the reservoirs?

4 A I can't recall any at this point. We were not  
5 faced with any high nutrient conditions in either

10:06AM

6 Lake Mathews or Lake Skinner. Aah, in -- we were  
7 interested in the nutrient inputs in the State Water  
8 Project reservoirs. While we did not control them  
9 and operate them, they were operated by the

10 California Department of Water Resources, a state  
11 government department. We received water from them,  
12 and there were a number of small wastewater

10:07AM

13 discharges into those reservoirs, and we were  
14 interested in those nutrient inputs and what -- what  
15 the effects of those might be. We were also

10:07AM

16 interested in nutrient cycling through the sediments  
17 in all of the reservoirs because of a problem with  
18 benthic blue-green algae, a series of different  
19 benthic blue-green algae that we were monitoring and  
20 -- and researching.

10:07AM

21 Q Okay. So did you conduct any type of  
22 investigation to identify the source of nutrients in  
23 either of the Metropolitan's lakes or the Colorado  
24 River?

25 A No. Sorry. Not true. On the Colorado River

10:08AM

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1 Q What -- can you explain what a limiting  
2 nutrient is in the context of a reservoir?

3 A A limiting nutrient is one that is generally  
4 in low concentration compared to the other nutrients  
5 that you're comparing it to. For example, if you 10:37AM  
6 take the simple case of nitrogen and phosphorus, in  
7 a lot of reservoirs there is plenty of nitrogen  
8 available, either due to input of nitrogen from  
9 runoff or fertilizer use in the watershed or  
10 whatever or from the death and decay of plants from 10:37AM  
11 nitrogen-fixing organisms. Phosphorus, on the other  
12 hand, sometimes is in very low concentrations, and  
13 the algae will only grow to the extent that the  
14 phosphorus level will stimulate that growth.

15 Phosphorus is critical for -- for the growth and 10:38AM  
16 reproduction of -- well, of organisms in general,  
17 but algae specifically, and so they will only grow  
18 to accommodate the level of phosphorus that's there.  
19 So if more phosphorus is put in, then they will grow  
20 more. It's -- so it's the amount of nitrogen that's 10:38AM  
21 present is in excess, the amount of phosphorus is  
22 limiting.

23 Q Okay. Thank you. Did you undertake any --  
24 did you or Metropolitan while you were there  
25 undertake any studies or surveys to identify any 10:38AM

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1 sources of the nitrogen and phosphorus in the four  
2 State Water Project reservoirs?

3 A There were small wastewater plants that were  
4 discharging into the reservoir, and we -- we did do  
5 some work on those. I'm -- the details are very 10:39AM  
6 vague in my mind. We were always interested in what  
7 was coming into the reservoirs from the main flow of  
8 the -- of the aqueducts that were bringing water  
9 from northern California. They go through a very  
10 rich agricultural area in the Sacramento-San Joaquin 10:39AM  
11 Delta, and from there they pick up a variety of  
12 different materials, and we were always interested  
13 in tracking that. So that is -- those were the  
14 primary sources that we were interested in. These  
15 watersheds were pretty -- pretty much undeveloped, 10:39AM  
16 and so there wasn't much contribution from --  
17 besides these small wastewater plants, much -- much  
18 contribution from other activities that I can  
19 recall.

20 Q We don't have aqueducts in Oklahoma, as far as 10:40AM  
21 I know. Can you -- can you explain to me a little  
22 bit more what you just said the -- about the  
23 aqueduct systems -- system?

24 MR. JORGENSEN: Object to the form.

25 A In our case we have a lot of rain in the 10:40AM

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1 stratification, the establishment of a thermocline,  
2 zero dissolved oxygen below the thermocline. I've  
3 worked with a number of clients on in-reservoir  
4 treatment in order to reduce those contaminants,  
5 hydrogen sulfide being a contaminant that's produced  
6 in the reservoir, shifting species, again, from one  
7 -- from blue-greens, which might be dominant, to  
8 more green algae. We actually evaluated in --  
9 in-reservoir treatment of high levels of  
10 trihalomethanes with using surface aerators. There  
11 was a finished water reservoir that had -- that was  
12 a finished water reservoir. It wasn't a raw water  
13 reservoir. Okay. Those are the ones that come to  
14 mind. Again, if I think of any, I'll be happy to  
15 fill in.

02:16PM

02:17PM

02:17PM

16 Q Okay. What project did you undertake to keep  
17 asbestos from getting into a reservoir?

18 A That was the survey of the State Water Project  
19 that was done in the early 1980's where we  
20 discovered that the State of California was taking  
21 in these flood flows from the Coalinga area, and so  
22 we encouraged them to find alternate ways of getting  
23 rid of the stormwater than putting it into the  
24 aqueduct because of the problem with the fact that  
25 the runoff was coming from these asbestos mines.

02:17PM

02:17PM

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1 Q Okay. Did you do any of the -- the source  
2 identification work to identify the location of the  
3 asbestos released?

4 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection, asked and  
5 answered.

02:18PM

6 A We did the sampling of the water. The source  
7 was obvious. It was there. I mean, you could see  
8 it physically. The levels of asbestos fibers in the  
9 stormwater were huge, and, also, they laid down a  
10 sediment layer in the aqueduct itself of -- of high  
11 concentrations of asbestos fibers in the sediment  
12 that then would be slowly released over time. So it  
13 was kind of a mess all the way around, and getting  
14 them to change their operations so that that didn't  
15 happen anymore was our goal.

02:18PM

02:18PM

16 Q Okay. So did you test the runoff water?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And visibly identified the mine?

19 A That was a matter of public record. We didn't  
20 have to visibly identify it.

02:18PM

21 Q Okay, and then tested the source water -- the  
22 raw water?

23 A I'm not sure what you mean by raw water.  
24 There are different kinds of raw water. What --

25 Q The reservoir?

02:19PM

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1       A       The reservoir, yes, yes.

2       Q       Okay, and were you able to identify the mine  
3       as the source of the asbestos?

4       A       We -- yes. It was pretty obvious where it was  
5       coming from. These were massive, massive

02:19PM

6       concentrations, and there was a specific activity  
7       that was easily identifiable. There was no mystery  
8       here. You know, it was mines, stormwater. There  
9       were gates that let the water into the -- the

10      aqueduct, and the concentrations below were much

02:19PM

11      higher than they were above. It was quite obvious  
12      what was going on.

13      Q       Okay, and the other example that you gave was  
14      in-lake treatment. Does in-lake treatment or any of  
15      the in-lake treatment that you did require  
16      identification of the sources contributing to the  
17      levels that you see in the lake?

02:19PM

18      A       Yes. The source was pretty obvious. In the  
19      case of hydrogen sulfide, it was coming from the  
20      hypolimnion, the lower part of the lake where there  
21      was no dissolved oxygen. Sources of taste and odor  
22      contaminants were -- we've already talked about at  
23      length, and I had mentioned that before, but that  
24      was, of course, again, in-reservoir identification  
25      and treatment of contaminants.

02:20PM

02:20PM

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1 Q Did -- did he do the job that you did  
2 previously before you left?

3 A No. He was a specialist. He was a  
4 limnologist.

5 Q Okay. Did -- is it Dr. Horne? 02:28PM

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did he make any recommendations to -- to you  
8 or to Metropolitan regarding the method to deal with  
9 the algae blooms in any of the reservoirs?

10 A I don't recall any. I know that we worked 02:28PM  
11 together on those reservoirs.. My recollection of  
12 what he actually did and, you know, what resulted  
13 from that, I just can't recall at this point.. It  
14 was a long time ago.

15 Q Earlier when we talked about phosphorus 02:28PM  
16 limitation and/or nitrogen limitation, you talked  
17 about somebody advising you, getting a couple of  
18 different opinions regarding whether or not these  
19 reservoirs were phosphorus or nitrogen limited. Did  
20 you get any opinion from Dr. Horne? 02:29PM

21 A Yes.

22 Q And what was his opinion?

23 A I don't recall.

24 Q So originally we were talking about areas of  
25 your expertise, and what I'm trying to determine is, 02:29PM

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**MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, VOLUME I, 3-18-09**

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1 have you done any work to go out into a watershed to  
2 identify contributors of pollutants to water bodies?

3 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection, asked and  
4 answered.

5 A No, with the exception of the asbestos that I 02:30PM  
6 already talked about and with the exception of the  
7 delta -- the -- the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta,  
8 which was specifically, you know, providing organic  
9 precursors. So the answer really isn't no. The  
10 answer is, yes, that we -- we have -- I particularly 02:30PM  
11 -- I personally have gone into watersheds and found  
12 -- looked for and, in at least two cases I can  
13 recall off the top of my head, found sources of  
14 organic and inorganic contaminants that we needed to  
15 deal with one way or another. 02:31PM

16 Q Okay, and the one instance is the asbestos  
17 that we just talked about; is that correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And the other instance is the delta project  
20 that we discussed earlier today? 02:31PM

21 A Yes.

22 Q And, as I understood that delta project  
23 earlier, there was a Gary Aim (sic), is -- is that  
24 correct, that was responsible for that project?

25 A Gary Amy, A-M-Y -- 02:31PM

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1 Q Amy.

2 A -- was a professor at University of Arizona --  
3 he's currently in the Netherlands -- who we  
4 consulted with on that.

5 Q Did you actually do fieldwork in that project? 02:31PM

6 A Collected samples, yes.

7 Q Okay.

8 A I didn't personally, but I supervised that --  
9 that work.

10 Q Okay. Did you analyze those results in terms 02:31PM  
11 of determining the source?

12 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection to form.

13 A I didn't personally do any of that analysis.

14 That was, again, the reason why we hired Dr. Amy.

15 There were a variety of different studies going on 02:32PM

16 that I was involved in in many different capacities.

17 It's kind of hard to remember exactly what I did and

18 what consultants did at this point. I was involved

19 in it at various levels, supervising, doing, working

20 with contractors. 02:32PM

21 Q It's the doing part I'm trying to get my -- my

22 understanding clear on. I -- I guess it was my

23 previous understanding that -- that Metropolitan

24 retained Dr. Amy to do the research to identify

25 sources. 02:32PM

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**MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, VOLUME II, 3-19-09**

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W. A. DREW EDMONDSON, in his )  
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ENVIRONMENT C. MILES TOLBERT,) )  
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TRUSTEE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES) )  
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- - - - -  
VOLUME II OF THE VIDEOTAPED  
DEPOSITION OF MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, produced  
as a witness on behalf of the Plaintiff in the above  
styled and numbered cause, taken on the 19th day of  
March, 2009, in the City of Tulsa, County of Tulsa,  
State of Oklahoma, before me, Kristen Holmes, a  
Certified Shorthand Reporter, duly certified under  
and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

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**MICHAEL McGUIRE, PhD, VOLUME II, 3-19-09**

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1 Q So if the MCLG is exceeded, is there risk to  
2 human health from the person who's exposed to the  
3 water that is -- exceeds the MCLG?

4 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection.

5 A You're asking me a health risk question. 09:20AM

6 Q Uh-huh.

7 A And I've stated pretty clearly that I'm not a  
8 toxicologist. So I think it's clear that I don't  
9 have an expert opinion on that..

10 Q Okay. If the EPA establishes an -- an MCLG 09:20AM  
11 for a contaminant, does that mean that the  
12 contaminant is -- is -- may have an adverse effect  
13 on the health of -- of persons?

14 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection.

15 A That's the definition, yes. 09:21AM

16 Q Do you know which DBPs there are MCLGs for --

17 A Not --

18 Q -- established?

19 A I don't have them memorized. They're listed  
20 in the rule. 09:21AM

21 Q Okay. Do you know whether there is, just from  
22 your memory, an MCLG for chloroform?

23 A The MCLGs have changed dramatically over the  
24 last 25 years, and so the numbers have changed,  
25 those that have MCLGs have changed, and I -- I would 09:21AM

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1 location of the plume, where do you need to site,  
2 capture wells, that kind of thing.

3 Q When that's done, is it based on a concern  
4 about risks to human health?

5 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection. 02:33PM

6 A In -- in the particular case of San Gabriel  
7 Valley, yes, because that water is extracted and  
8 used for drinking purposes. So the levels that were  
9 used for treatment of that water were levels  
10 established by the state and, indeed, were the MCLs. 02:33PM

11 Q And we may have covered this before. Have you  
12 -- have you conducted any scientific or medical  
13 research on the health effects of disinfection  
14 byproducts?

15 A No. 02:34PM

16 MR. JORGENSEN: Objection.

17 A I'm sorry. Did you hear me? I said no. We  
18 -- we spoke over each other..

19 MR. JORGENSEN: I apologize.

20 Q Are you qualified to give opinions on risks to 02:34PM  
21 human health from ingesting DBPs?

22 A No.

23 Q Can disinfection byproducts cause taste and  
24 odor problems?

25 A Not the disinfection byproducts we're talking 02:34PM

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